Atrocities on minorities in Bangladesh

845. SHRI C. M. Ibrahim : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had approached the UN Human Rights Commission in the wake of rampant atrocities and human rights violations perpetrated on Hindu and other minorities in Bangladesh and a surge of fundamentalism sweeping that country following the recent change of Government regime in that country;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and issues brought up before the Commission; and

(c) The response of the Commission thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMARABDULLAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Pendency of Passport applications at Bareilly Passport Office

846. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for Passports pending with the Passport Office, Bareilly at the beginning of 2002;

(b) the number of applications received by the Passport Office Bareilly since 10th January, 2002 (till date);

(c) the maximum and the minimum pendency period in respect of applications pending clearance at the beginning of 2002;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) what measures have been taken by Government to clear backlog of passport applications by the Passport Office Bareilly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH): (a) An application is considered pending after receipt of clear police verification report. The number of applications for